Rec'd Aug 5
Ans 8
Masters

THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE OFFICE,

41, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

London July 20 1876

My dear Dr. Engelmann

Many thanks for your kindness in sending me your papers on Quercus & Agaves which I shall make use of - next year or perhaps at the end of this Baker is to give us a list of garden Agaves with figures &c

Can you

tell us what Echinocactus
Simpsoni is – I have
just seen a specimen
reputed to be hardy here
but I cannot find any
such name – though
I presume it is one of
your plants – I have
asked my factotum
to send you a full
of the cut and if you
can furnish us with
any information I shall
be greatly obliged
with many thanks
Faithfully yours
J Maxwell T. Masters

Rec Jan 15th 77
Ans Same day

THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE OFFICE,

41, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

London Dec. 29 1876

My dear Dr. Engelmann

Am I troubling you too much in asking your opinion as to the enclosed Echinocactus — I fear the material is by no means satisfactory so I must beg you not to take any trouble or lose any time over their determination

-tion if they are not
readily recognisable ~~for~~ by you -
Your waste paper basket
is doubtless capacious
so if I get no answer
I shall quite understand
why and shall all the
same tender my thanks
& apologies for troubling

Yours faithfully
Maxwell-T. Masters

Acr Apr 10
ans soon

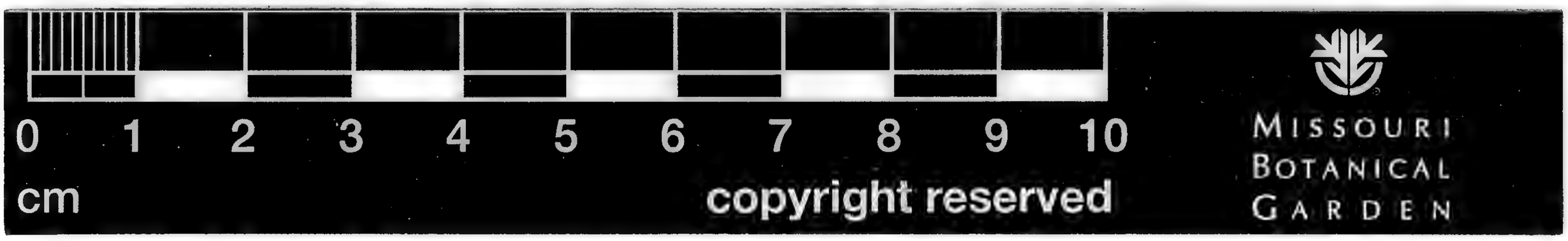
THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE OFFICE,

41, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

London 3. 28 1877

My dear Dr. Engelmann

Can you oblige us by a name for the enclosed - Should the material be insufficient it will put you to any or if - trouble to determine it - - please throw it alone in the waste paper basket - I suppose you have such


0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
cm
copyright reserved
MISSOURI
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

Vines in America!)

Sincerely

Maxwell T. Masters

Rec Nov 27th
Ans same day

THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE OFFICE,

41, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

London 4 Nov.r 1879

My dear Dr Engelmann

I am greatly
obliged for the advance
sheets of Botany of
California relating to
Conifers & which have
the more interest for
me as I have been
working lately at some
of the Japanese Conifers.

Yours

leads me to ask you if you have compared the Japanese & N. E. Asiatic ~~homolepis~~ ajanensis with Sitchensis or Menziesii - You do not say so in your paper - They are very close but I fancy there are some slight differences

Faithfully Yrs.

Maxwell T. Masters

Rec March 15
Ans same day

1

THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE OFFICE,

41, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

London ~~Feb 27~~ March 3 1880

My dear Dr Engelmann

I feel it a great compliment I assure you that you should offer criticisms on my first attempts in Conifers. The name dahurica I only know in connection with Larix, it can hardly be = Picea ajanensis —

Leaf-structure: — I am greatly obliged to you for your criticism — I would

2

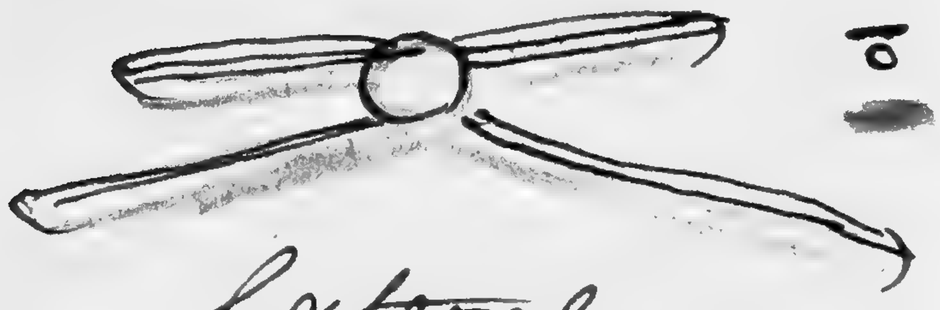
not have believed that so simple a matter would have caused myself and (you say) others so much confusion. – Of course I agree with you in the main – but here is the difficulty – Take the erect leader shoot of P. adjunctis – suppose a transverse cut through the stem or axis and the leaves so –

– (I have only put four leaves but that does not matter). The leaves are erect and appressed, the glaucous blue surface being pressed up against the stem – the convex green surface is

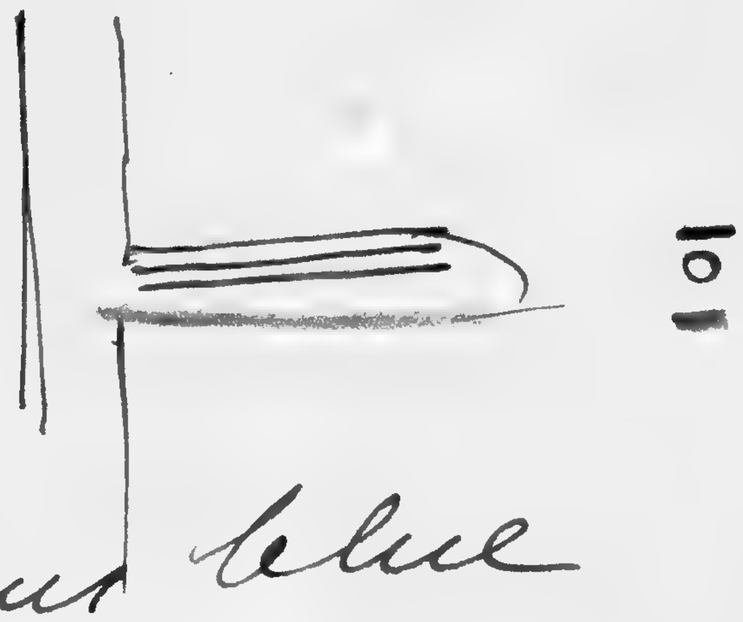
3

away from the axis and it is this green comparatively stomate-less surface beneath which the resin-canals are placed - Here it is in longitudinal section.

Now, take the lateral shoots where the leaves are twisted more or less so as to lie all about in the same horizontal plane.



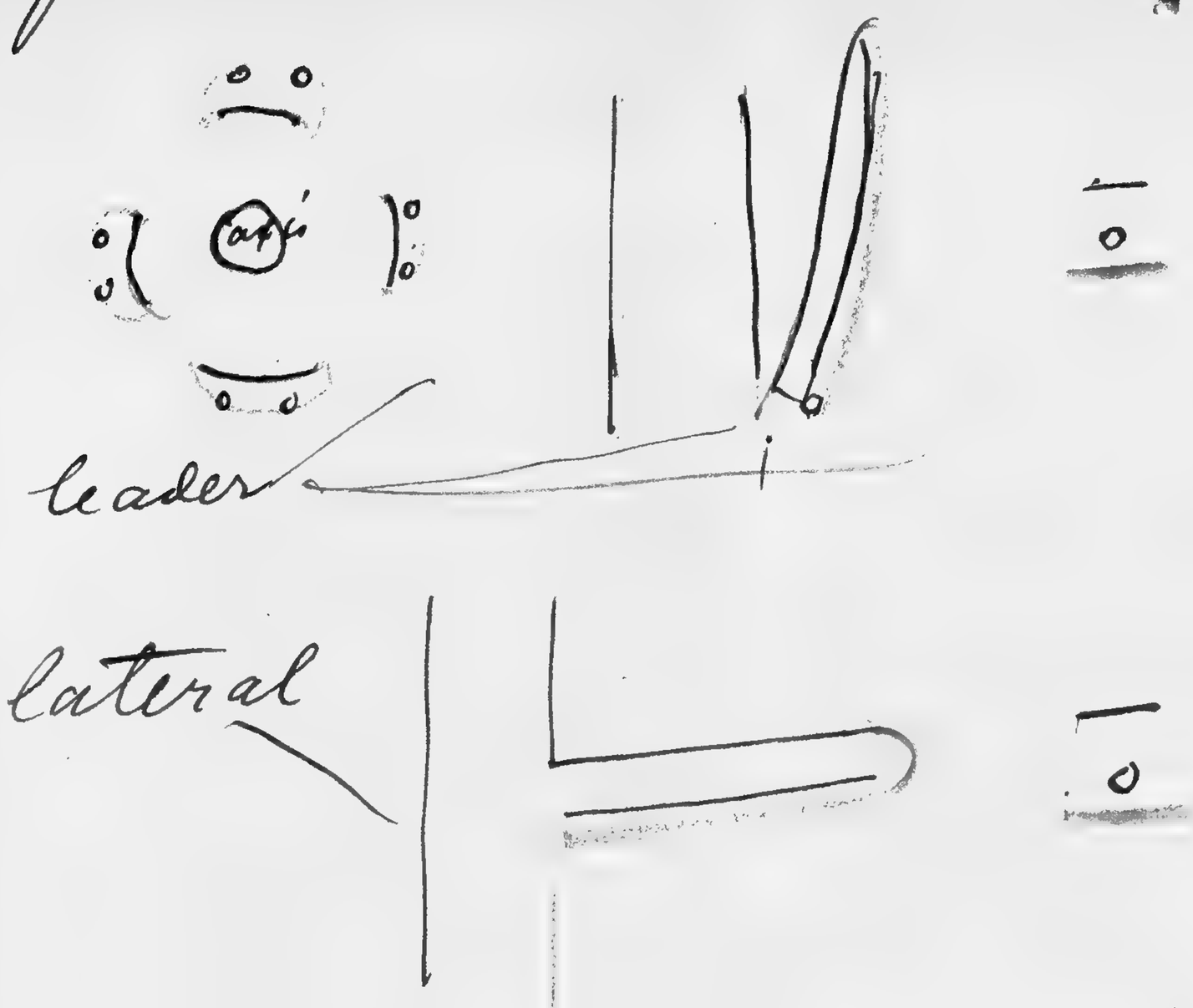
lateral



-Then the glaucous blue surface is the lower apparently and the green surface is the upper. and the resin canals are also above.

4

– Contrast this with other firs such as Nordmannana



– On the leader shoot the leaves are twisted so that the glaucous surface becomes external. On the lateral shoot the glaucous surface is inferior and, in both cases, the resin canals are nearest to the glaucous surface. So that admitting the twisting out of place, there still remains

5

the fact that in these Japanese spruces the resin canals are nearest to the green surface, whereas in most other firs they are nearest to the glaucous surface. Call it upper or lower as you will.—

Before I close this letter I will endeavour to get fresh specimens from a leader & from a lateral shoot of what I call ajanensis — My dried ones are all dismembered, meantime believe me

faithfully yr

Maxwell T. Masters.

Pray pardon me a very humble prentice-hand in conifer lore

6

P.S. By good luck I have a leader shoot with two young laterals which shows exactly what I mean — you will see the leader leaves are not twisted but the laterals are so that the ~~lower~~ green surface of the leader leaves is outer — the green surface of the laterals is (by the twist) uppermost

P.P.S. P. latiocarpa Hort. = concolor Engelmann? In your Bot. of California you state that Lowiana C. Synon. has not fruited in cultivation — This statement copied into G.C. brought me leaves & dismembered scales some of wh. I enclose — The leaf is what is called here latiocarpa or Lowiana —

By the by I see you do not take up Ab. Gordoniana — but there is a silver in the gardens wh. looks different from grandis or Lowiana & Co.

I send you a scrap —

41 Wellington Street
Covent Garden
London

Royal Horticultural Society,
South Kensington, S.W.

Rec'd May 7th
Ans Same Day

1)

April 23 1880

My dear Dr. Engelmann

First let me thank you for your monographic sketch of Pinus wh. I shall look into with great interest. Hooker had already shown me your MS relating to it.

– I now send you leaves from the shoot on which the cone of laxiocarpa (Lowiana) grew, scales of which I

sent you in a former letter - My correspondent tells me the cones were all produced in a ring at the base of the lateral branches, close round the main stem - On comparing them with the leaves on the sterile shoots I can see no material difference in size, color, or form.

P. ajanensis - I am afraid we are getting what you on your side of the Atlantic called "mixed" and, moreover, I

3

fear I am to blame for having written hurriedly and not having revised what I wrote. – I quite admit that the bluish stomatose surface is organically the upper, but that, in some cases, it gets twisted so as to become apparently the lower. – I admit also thankfully your correction of my published error in this matter. –

But then, in your last letter you go on to say

4.

that the leaves on the lateral branches of ajamensis "~~[illegible]~~ if looked at from above look white or bluish, the upper stone above side being turned upward" and you go on to say that my figure gives the reverse

of this —

Since your letter, as many times before, I have looked at the lateral shoot of ajamensis and I always find the green surface uppermost as in my sketch

5

Royal Horticultural Society.

South Kensington. S.W.

18

It is only here & there that a small spray is uplifted to show the silvery surface.

— I am making a monographic list of the Japanese species and before publishing it I should like if possible to correct my former blunders and to put the matter straight, so I venture to trouble you once more with

6

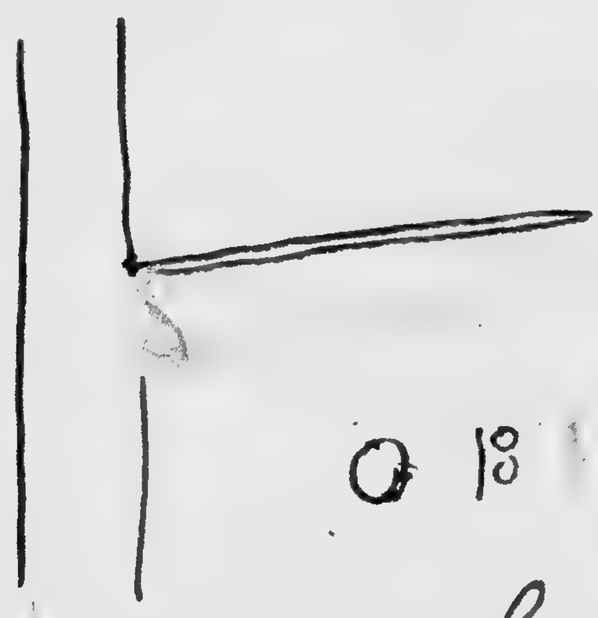
my notions as follows:—

Ojanensis

1 leader shoot

Leaves ascending appressed not twisted at base, upper surface glaucous, next to the axis etc. etc.

2



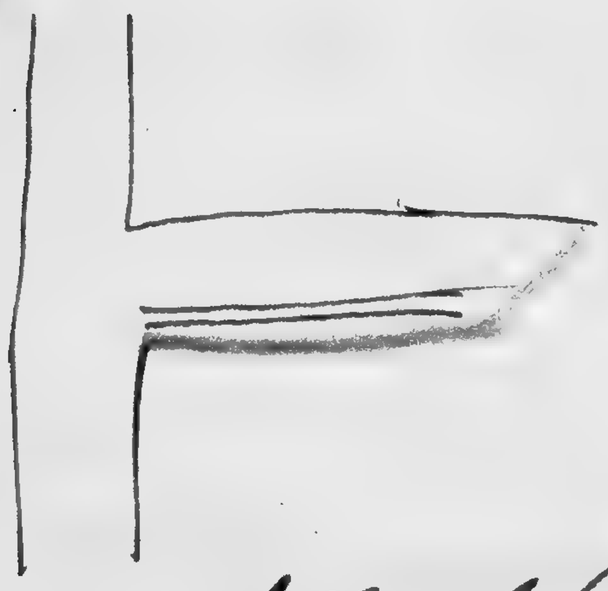
2. Lateral shoot — Leaves spreading twisted at the base, upper surface glaucous, but, owing to the twist it is the apparent lower surface

The resin canals are close under the green surface in both cases

7

In most others (all so far as I know – the blue surface is away from the axis –

leaves of Nordmanniana



lateral shoot of A. Nordmanna

I begin to think, – may I am sure, that at certain reasons there is a good deal

8

more twisting and untwisting going on than we are aware of — I have now on my lawn two small plants of what I call brachyphylla & homolepis & of Nordmann-niana and on the few occasions when I am at home for any length of time during the day I notice great liveliness!!! in the leaves from time to time — I shall do myself the pleasure to send you slips of my notes on Jap.e Conifers when complete, meanwhile, excuse my troubling you so much & believe me faithfully yrs

Maxwell T. Masters.

Arrived June 24th
Ans Nov 25

Gardeners' Chronicle
Wellington Street
Covent Garden
London

June 12. 1880

My dear Dr. Engelmann

Imprimis
Thanks for the
note relating to the
Agave
Secondo - Abies Concolor
- A short time since
I dressed up an
article on this following

your indications —
This has brought about
my ears no end of
contradictions from
the nurserymen
and even Hooper
objects. — I get from
various sources
sprays of what our
people call concolor
wh certainly looks
very different from
that called Lowiana
or Parsoniana or
lasiocarpa

I send you a little
bit of it and shall
be pretty obliged for
your opinion —
You must know that
I have expressed — indeed
formed no opinion
of my own respecting
the American Conifers.
which I have not
critically studied
being content to sit
at your feet —
I also send you scraps

of some others including
the much controverted
amabilis – I have
numbered them
so if you have time
and inclination to
give your opinion it
will only be necessary
to cite the numbers –
I am sold that much
of the confusion arises
from a shifting of
tallies accidentally
for the purpose lays
one

one
of our nurserymen
lest there are so many
conflicting statements
made by those who
should know that it
is hopeless to arrive at
any conclusion as
to which is right —
In such a case — is it
not better to break
away altogether from
strict botanical law
and start afresh
on the best accessible
data

leaving the nurserymen
to settle among themselves
names "bedevilled"
by their own questionable
practices.
Excuse me bothering you
and believe me
with many thanks
faithfully Yrs
Maxwell T. Masters

1 Concolor. hort. Kew. Barron
or
2 Parsoniana h. Barron
= Lowiana, latiscarpa &c
3 amabilis douglas hort. angl.
4 grandis douglas hort angl
5 grandis vancouver Isl.?

Rec Jan 3d 1881
Ans Nov 7

THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE OFFICE,

41, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

London Dec. 16 1880

My dear Dr. Engelmann

I congratulate you on your safe return and anticipate the recital of your results with very great interest — You will probably have found out before this reaches you that we did receive your note and photograph concerning Abies amabilis - I published at once an abstract but we had to wait a long time before the engraving

2

was done. All thanks to you for your kindness. It was a matter in which people here feel great interest. — I am glad to find the plants grown here as annabilis are the right thing. —

In a Post Card which you also sent me you mention having sent me a photo of A. grandis — this I never received indeed I suspect you wrote grandis for annabilis; but if you have any photographs to spare of true grandis — or indeed

3

If any other Pacific Conifers we should be glad to get them and to publish as good figures as we could.

It is very curious about Lowiana and Concolor, Here, what are grown under these names are so very different – and concolor is always, as far as I have seen, weak & poor as in the specimen sent to you. –

– I saw Gray last night at the Linnean but I

had no opportunity of speaking to him. He has been "on the continent" as we say, but must have returned earlier than he meant for he told me before he went he did not intend to return till February.

With many thanks, for your kindness

faithfully yrs

Maxwell T. Masters.

Dr. Geo Engelmann

Rec'd Feb 25
Ans

THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE OFFICE,
41, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

London Feb 10 1881

as Gray is still here I shall send away at Asters but keep something back for a visit Monday

My dear Dr. Engelmann,

If by chance you have a spare copy of your Synopsis of American Firs I would be bold enough to beg it, lest if inconvenient do not reply to this letter - I expect to have my list of Japanese Conifers out soon and well see

Yours

a copy - Our nurserymen complain very much of putting Concolor & Parsoniana & aliates together - They say it has spoiled the sale of Concolor!

Certainly as we see them in nurseries here they look very different but I see you still stick to your views

With many thanks

Faithfully Yrs

Maxwell T Masters